

What is claimed is:

1. The method of contacting a vapor with a liquid comprising providing a substantially helical conduit by which a vapor passes through a contacting zone defined by a substantially vertically disposed substantially cylindrical housing, introducing the said vapor at one end of the said conduit, advancing the said vapor through the said conduit, said conduit having an outer lateral periphery defined by the wall of the said housing and an inner lateral periphery positioned between the axis of the said contacting zone and the said wall of the said housing whereby a flow path through the said contacting zone is created, introducing the said liquid into part or all of the said conduit into the said flowing vapor stream whereby the said liquid is dispersed into the said vapor stream throughout part or all of the said contacting zone, advancing the contacted liquid through the said conduit, withdrawing the said contacted vapor from the said contacting zone, and withdrawing the said contacted liquid from the said contacting zone.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein an auger shaped fluid guiding body comprising a stem and a blade extends through part or all of the length of the said axis of the said contacting zone, said blade having an outer periphery adjacent to the said wall of the said housing and an inner periphery adjacent to the said stem, said blade further comprising the means to disperse the said liquid into the said flowing vapor stream.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein the temperature of the said liquid is warm or cool in relation to the temperature of the said vapor whereby a temperature gradient between the said liquid and the said vapor is created and heat is transferred to or from the said flowing vapor stream.